

FISCAL NOTE

TO: Chief Clerk of the Senate
Chief Clerk of the House

FROM: James A. Davenport, Executive Director

DATE: March 19, 1996

SUBJECT: **SB 3050 - HB 3025**

This bill, if enacted, will provide that no physically or mentally handicapped children enrolled in a comprehensive developmental classroom program shall be allowed to remain in transit to or from school on a school bus more than one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon.

According to the Department of Education, this is an area which is primarily restricted to the metropolitan areas of the state. Therefore, the four largest systems would be primarily affected.

The fiscal impact from enactment of this bill is estimated to be an increase in local government* expenditures statewide of approximately \$3,521,560. This estimate is based on the following information:

The Metro/Davidson County Director of Transportation indicates that presently special education students are on a bus for 1.5 hours in the morning and 1.5 hours in the afternoon. To meet the one hour requirement set out by the bill, special education routes in Metro/Davidson County will have to be increased 10%. Currently, Metro has 117 special education routes. Details of this estimate are shown below:

SB 3050 - HB 3025

Metro-Davidson County	
Present special ed bus routes	117
10% increase in routes	x 10%
New routes needed	12

Cost per new route:	
Bus and driver	\$ 63,975
No. of new routes needed	x 12

Increased Cost to Metro-Davidson Co. \$767,700


Of the major metropolitan areas which will most likely be affected by the bill, Davidson County represents approximately 21.8% of the student population:

Metro-Davidson Co. Cost	\$767,700
Percent of total cost	<u>÷21.8%</u>

Estimated Statewide Cost \$3,521,560

For information purposes, because local transportation expenditures become part of the BEP transportation formula, these expenditures will eventually be reflected in the BEP formula. The transportation component of the formula is equalized at 50% state/50% local.

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.


James A. Davenport, Executive Director

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*